

Application No. 10/049,732
Amendment dated March 5, 2004
Reply to Office Action of November 7, 2003

REMARKS

Claim 1 has been canceled and new claim 12 has been added to specifically claim an axial piston drive having a swash plate that can be rotated relative to the pistons and relative to the drive shaft. This dual rotational movement allows the swash plate tilt angle to be moved from a maximum angle to a minimum angle and vice versa.

The prior art neither shows nor suggests such structure or function.

DE 34 20 529 discloses a device in which the swash plate is not allowed to rotate relative to the piston rod.

Kayukawa '453 does not allow rotational movement between the swash plate and the drive shaft.

Similarly, Leduc '822 proposes a structure that does not allow rotational movement between the drive shaft and the swash plate. Such rotational movement is blocked by the joint (10).

It is earnestly believed that all of the Examiner's objections have been met and discussed and that this case is now in condition for allowance. Such action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



Gary A. Essmann (Reg. No. 29,376)

Andrus, Sceales, Starke & Sawall, LLP
100 East Wisconsin Avenue, Suite 1100
Milwaukee, WI 53202
414-271-7590
Atty. Docket No: 825-00162